

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending July 28, 2002**. Widespread rains across the state have helped the row crops and pastures improve in condition. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 8 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2001	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Silked	100	99	100	99	1	5	20	51	23
	Dough	95	88	95	93					
	Dent	75	59	72	74					
	Mature	20	13	25	21					
	Silage Harvested	41	30	34	36					
Cotton	Squaring	100	98	100	99	0	3	15	57	25
	Setting Bolls	95	85	95	95					
Rice	Heading	52	39	58	51	0	2	10	60	28
Sorghum	Heading	99	94	98	94	0	2	6	58	34
	Turning Color	53	40	49	43					
	Mature	3	--	9	4					
Soybeans	Blooming	93	84	97	88	0	3	20	50	27
	Setting Pods	72	60	86	71					
	Turning Color	3	--	13	4					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	68	63	72	67	0	6	23	49	22
Watermelons	Harvested	89	74	78	72	--	--	--	--	--
Sweetpotatoes						4	20	48	28	--
Cattle						1	5	16	64	14
Pasture						4	6	28	47	15

County Agent Comments

“Last week we received adequate rainfall across the entire county. Crops, especially milo, cotton, and soybeans, have responded to the rain with new growth and fruiting. If we continue to get timely rain in August. we will be able to overcome a bad start.”

— Mack Young, Quitman County

“Insect pressure in cotton picked up last week as applications for worms were applied late in the week. Rains over the last couple of weeks have helped the crops reach maturity with little stress on the crops.”

— Guy Wilson, Washington County

“Army worms, Army worms - they seem to be in all types of pastures. Rain seems to slow them down a little bit but they are a major problem. Afternoon showers have slowed hay baling down. Bermuda grass hay is over mature because of same problem.”

— Mike Keene, Perry County

“Blueberry harvest is 100% complete. Post-harvest activities are being completed. Watermelon harvest is 90% complete. Afternoon rain storms, or the threat of showers are making it almost impossible to harvest hay; producers need dry weather. Cattle are in good to excellent condition. Pastures are in good to excellent condition. Pine bark beetles are threatening to be a serious problem.”

— Allen W. McReynolds, Wayne County

“Showers every day but one last week have kept most producers out of the field. Cotton has taken on growth with wet conditions. Insect pressure is moderate with some plant bugs showing up in beans and grasshoppers in corn and beans.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah County

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Weather Summary from July 22, 2002 to July 28, 2002 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	94	71	82	82	0	1.29	+0.47	3	4.41	87	74	81	0.37
Cleveland	95	72	83	82	+1	1.18	+0.61	3	2.94				
Tunica	94	71	82	82	0	1.40	+0.66	1	2.39	94	77	85	0.19
Extreme/Average	95	71	82	82	0	1.29	+0.42	2	3.25	94	74	83	0.26
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	94	63	78	79	-1	1.68	+0.71	3	5.03	88	80	84	0.17
Memphis	93	73	83	83	0	1.09	+0.19	4	3.54				
Oxford	96	69	82	81	+1	0.86	-0.01	3	4.90				
Extreme/Average	96	63	81	81	0	1.21	+0.27	3	4.49	88	80	84	0.17
3. Northeast													
Booneville	92	69	80	80	0	0.31	-0.59	2	2.62				
Corinth	91	70	79	82	-3	0.18	-0.75	1	2.09				
Iuka	91	65	78	78	0	0.35	-0.70	4	4.17				
Pontotoc	93	69	79	81	-2	0.74	-0.21	3	2.64	86	79	82	0.17
Tupelo	93	70	81	81	0	1.24	+0.50	4	6.05				
Verona	94	71	81	81	0	0.69	-0.08	3	3.59	92	79	85	0.23
Extreme/Average	94	65	80	80	0	0.59	-0.36	3	3.53	92	79	84	0.20
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	95	71	83	82	+1	0.60	-0.55	4	1.60	104	84	92	
Rolling Fork	98	71	84	82	+2	0.77	-0.08	1	1.67	105	85	94	0.18
Stoneville	97	71	84	83	+1	1.75	+0.96	2	3.05	101	81	91	0.28
Yazoo City	94	66	81	82	-1	2.43	+1.51	4	4.73				
Extreme/Average	98	66	83	82	+1	1.39	+0.43	3	2.76	105	81	93	0.23
5. Central													
Carthage	95	69	81	81	0	1.91	+0.88	4	5.83				
Greenwood	94	69	81	83	-2	2.32	+1.45	6	4.90				
Jackson	93	69	81	82	-1	3.03	+1.98	4	6.69				
Winona	91	66	78	78	0	2.78	+1.81	2	8.49				
Extreme/Average	95	66	80	81	-1	2.51	+1.44	4	6.48				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.30	-0.54	1	2.06				
Columbus	94	70	81	82	-1	1.69	+0.77	4	6.63				
State University	94	68	80	81	-1	1.77	+0.81	6	7.08	88	81	83	0.19
Extreme/Average	94	68	80	81	-1	1.25	+0.10	4	5.26	88	81	83	0.19
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	96	68	82	82	0	1.42	+0.53	3	4.18	88	77	81	
Natchez	93	69	81	82	-1	2.76	+1.87	3	3.29				
Oakley	97	70	82	81	+1	0.55	-0.29	2	2.50				
Vicksburg	95	73	84			0.00		0	1.23				
Extreme/Average	97	68	82	81	+1	1.18	+0.13	2	2.80	88	77	81	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	94	70	81	82	-1	1.69	+0.44	4	6.46				
McComb	94	70	81	82	-1	3.91	+2.65	4	12.25				
Extreme/Average	94	70	81	81	0	2.80	+1.57	4	9.36				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	97	67	81			1.34		2	4.07				
Hattiesburg	99	68	81	82	-1	1.20	-0.10	4	2.10				
Laurel	94	68	80	82	-2	1.11	-0.13	5	3.12				
Meridian	94	69	81	82	-1	1.45	+0.24	4	4.01				
Newton	97	68	81	81	0	0.38	-0.73	3	2.71	92	75	83	0.22
Extreme/Average	99	67	81	81	0	1.10	-0.15	4	3.20	92	75	83	0.22
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	96	67	81	82	-1	1.01	-0.71	4	1.78				
Biloxi AFB	91	73	81			2.77		6	6.84				
Gulfport	93	70	81	83	-2	3.79	+2.20	6	5.18				
Pascagoula	92	70	81			2.12		6	4.06				
Poplarville	98	68	82	82	0	0.56	-0.96	3	3.65	96	78	85	0.36
Extreme/Average	98	67	81	82	-1	2.05	+0.56	5	4.30	96	78	85	0.36
State	99	63	81	81	0	1.55	+0.45	3	4.57	105	74	84	0.22

DFN = Departure from Normal.